GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:73
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2002
ABOLITION OF SATI
MINATI SEN

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incident of `Sati` in Madhya Pradesh in a village of Patna-Tamolion August 6, 2002 shows that this barbaric practice is still prevalent in the country;

(b) if so, whether the existing laws are inadequate to eradicate this menace; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to amend the existing laws in order to contain this menace?

Answer

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA)

(a) Rare incidents of Sati as in the village of Patna-Tamoli in Madhya Pradeshdo not indicate prevalence of this [barbaric] practice in the country.

(b) & (c) The provisions of the existing laws are deterrent enough to prevent this menace. However, to make the provisions more stringent and effective, the Department of Women & Child Development is in the process of amendingthe Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 in consultation with the National Commission for Women and other concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.